

SCHOOL COORDINATOR INFORMATION ON WOW ;Worlds of Work Program

WOW- Worlds of Work is a program facilitated through the Foundation for Young Australians. WOW operates across Australia and its primary aim is to build young peoples’ belief in their ability to transition from school successfully. Throughout the program students are provided with continuous opportunities to broaden their horizons regarding their futures outside the school classroom.

Program Format:

WOW in WSR is a program aimed at Year 10 students. Throughout the duration of the WOW program students are exposed to various activities / workshops designed to increase personal development and employability skills.

Emphasis on skills like leadership, communication, initiative and teamwork become the core of this program. Opportunities are presented for students to engage with employers and their employees in several large companies who share in the partnership of the WOW program. A short explanatory video is available on the FYA website;

<http://www.fya.org.au/initiatives/worlds-of-work/>

All activities that students are exposed to are facilitated by a staff member from FYA as well as 2 WSR WOW facilitators. Throughout the program staff members from the local Partnership Brokers may also be in attendance as well as WSR VET Consultancy staff.

Program Dates:

In 2012 WSR will be offering 2 WOW weeks.

* 7th to the 11th May 2012. This program will be held in Penrith
* 10th to the 14th September 2012. This program will be held in Parramatta.

Program Venues:

In 2012 we are trialling 2 WOW weeks. The locations chosen for these 2 weeks have been chosen due to their central location to a major rail connection. It is a key component of the organisation of the WOW weeks that students are able to access the venue independently. Students will need to pay their own transportation costs to the venue.

Our Partnership Brokers are actively negotiating and finalising the venues for the first week at present. Once venues are confirmed schools will be notified.

Program Time Frame:

The WOW program operates for a whole school week- 5 days straight.

Students who are unable to commit to the full 5 days should not be considered as participants of this program.

The days are long for students; 8.30am-4pm daily. Again because of the comprehensive daily activities these times are non- negotiable.

WOW Program Cost:

As a licensed program WOW belongs to the Foundation for Young Australians. As such there is a fee of $100 per student.

Students will be required to pay $40 to their school. WSR will subsidise the remainder of each students’ course cost.

STUDENTS:

Number of students:

The WOW program caters for a maximum of 25 students.

Student Year:

The WOW program in WSR is being offered to Year 10 students only. This may change in 2013 as a result of evaluations from students and facilitators.

Expectations of students;

Students who wish to participate in the WOW program are those who are considering continuing into the senior school. These students however have not reached their full potential and require an activity that will inspire them and give them the self-confidence to aim higher. These students may be disengaged with their learning however they do not meet criteria that affords them opportunities with outside agencies.

Students who have leadership potential but insufficient confidence to lead would be excellent candidates for WOW.

Students for both WOW Weeks will be required to submit an application form. This form is included in this email and will also be uploaded to the wiki. The application form for the first WOW week should be sent to:

Hanna Kemp

Western Sydney Region

Penrith Office

51 Henry Street

Penrith. 2750.

The application is due by **COB Thursday 5th April 2012**.

Please do not send applications for the September WOW week.

By the end of the first week of Term 2 successful students will be notified through the school. Students will then need to complete the WOW permission and medical information forms which will be sent at that time.

Students unsuccessful for the WOW week in May will need to reapply for the September WOW week when asked.

After WOW;

FYA has a WOW program follow-up that they conduct. This follow-up occurs about 6 weeks after the program and is done directly with the students with FYA staff. The aim of the follow-up is to gather anecdotal information regarding the students’ opinions of any changes made to their lives as a result of their participation in the WOW program.

WSR is currently investigating a regional follow up process. At this stage it is envisaged that this follow-up will revolve around student leadership. Once confirmed details will be relayed to all participants.

Further Information:

If you require further information;

* <http://www.fya.org.au/initiatives/worlds-of-work/>
* <http://vet-in-wsr.wikispaces.com/WOW+-+World+of+Work>

Please feel free to contact Hanna Kemp on 4724 8729 or via email at [hanna.kemp@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:hanna.kemp@det.nsw.edu.au) if you would like to discuss this further.

We look forward to working with your students on this very exciting initiative.